

# THE GATEWAY

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NEAL WELDING

**COWBOYS MAKIN' WITH THE FREAK FREAK** It was a drunk, rowdy, sweaty scene at the Powerplant on Saturday. The Uncas even destroyed an acoustic guitar by cutting it up with a power saw and then smashing it on anything in sight.

## Students hope to 'deconstruct' racial stereotypes, segregation

KAILA SIMONEAU  
News Writer

Wanting to destroy the racial myths surrounding hip hop, several U of A students have created an education project in time for February's Black History Month.

The Hip-Hop Initiative Project (HIP) is hosting a three-part series called "Deconstruction," breaking down the walls of darkness," which will include educational presentations, musical performances and guest appearances

from prominent members of the black and hip-hop communities.

The series, which will take place on 10 and 11 February at the U of A, aims at addressing and deconstructing the stereotypes associated with hip-hop and "black" cultures, while promoting awareness regarding the variation within the black community.

"There are a lot of stigmas, stereotypes and preconceived notions associated with hip-hop music," said Deconstruction organizer Ian Keteku.

PLEASESEE DECONSTRUCTION • PAGE 3

## Calgary schools to form shared learning space

JASLEEN MAHIL  
News Writer

Calgary's postsecondary institutions are collaborating on a plan to create more space for qualified students by 2010.

The University of Calgary, Mount Royal College, the Southern Alberta Institute of Technology (SAIT), Bow Valley College and the Alberta College of Art and Design signed a document two weeks ago with the goal of creating 19 000 more spaces for students. This partnership, known as Campus Calgary, comes after years of turning

down qualified students due to lack of space.

"We reached the point where we simply could not take more students every year. The city is simply growing too fast for us to absorb more capacity," said Roman Cooney, U of C's vice-president (external relations).

Cooney explained that although it would be nice to create more space immediately, it's something that takes time. Even with adequate funding, it will take time to develop more space, which is why the target is set for 2010.

"Even if we had the money tomorrow, we couldn't increase capacity fast

enough to absorb more students. You need space, you need faculty, and you need program growth. But if we have a five-year plan we can work towards hitting those targets," said Cooney.

The campuses, which began working together a year and a half ago, have three projects on the go to improve the overall quality of Calgary's postsecondary institutions. These include a digital library, the Health Technology Learning Institute and the development of an urban campus, which will include meeting spaces, galleries and theatres.

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## Inside



### Breaking the 'huddle'

Andrew Teal has advice for campus Christians who have to deal with those opposed to their views.

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### Dinosaur attack

The Golden Bears hockey team's 45-game unbeaten streak against Calgary came to an end on Saturday.

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### colophon

The Gateway is constructed Macintosh computers, Umax PowerLook 1000 flatbed scanners, and a Nikon Super Cool Scanning Film scanner. Adobe Photoshop is used for photo editing, while QuarkXPress is used for layout. Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files which are burned directly to CD to be mounted on the front page. Text is in Times New Roman, 12pt, and weights of Normal, Italic, and Bold. The Gateway's games of choice are Metal Gear Solid 3 and Half-Life: Opposing Force. If we can ever afford to buy it!

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## Extensive policies for bar safety already in place: gov't

**BAR SAFETY** • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Thompson stated that the Alberta Licensee Handbook, which outlines the policies that licensed establishments must abide by, is vague about what the bars are responsible and liable for.

But Lisa Shankaruk, communications officer at the Alberta Liquor and Gaming Commission (ALGC), said that in addition to the Licensee Handbook bars also need to abide by the Gaming and Liquor Act.

"All the laws outlined in the Gaming and Liquor Act and all the policies outlined in the Licensee Handbook are extensive, and the ALGC is committed to working with licensees to ensure they understand these policies

and laws," Shankaruk said.

The ALGC has recently committed around \$1 million towards an Alberta Server Intervention Program (ASIP).

ASIP aims to ensure that staff of all licensee premises are trained in conducting liquor services responsibly, including refusing service when necessary.

Thompson says these policies are "obviously not good enough."

People interested in the petition can find it this week on campus. It will also be circulating in neighbourhood businesses such as the Upper Crust Cafe and Cafe Leva.

A candlelight vigil will be held for Anthony Doyle at 7pm on Thursday, 10 February at City Hall.

## CAMPUS CRIME BEAT

Compiled by Chloé Fedio  
(fedio@ualberta.ca)

### SNIPPETY STEALERS

At about 9am on Tuesday, 1 February, University staff witnessed two suspicious men sharpening a pair of bolt cutters near the University Hall bike racks.

The thieving pair then used the boltcutters to cut a lock and steal a bicycle. The bike was thrown into the back of a truck, but not before witnesses noted its license-plate number.

### GATEWAY TRUCK SPOTTED!

On Wednesday, 2 February at 8:30am, Campus 5-0 spotted the truck suspected in the bicycle theft the previous day. The driver of the vehicle was wanted for outstanding warrants and was arrested without incident while the passenger attempted to flee the area on foot. After a short chase and brief struggle, 5-0 arrested the fugitive and charged him with possession of methamphetamine, resisting arrest, assault, obstruction of justice, and trespassing. The driver was charged with operating an uninsured motor vehicle and for transporting alcohol within easy reach. The Edmonton Police Service (EPS) took both men into custody and the truck was towed.

## U of A has no plan for shared space

**CALGARY** • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The five postsecondary schools will share these facilities.

Cooney sees these initiatives as a way to reach the greatest number of students.

"If we can put \$1 into a holding that serves not only the University of Calgary but all the postsecondary schools, that's an opportunity to help five students rather than one," said Cooney.

Postsecondary space is not just a Calgary dilemma; the University of Alberta is facing the same concern. While the U of A works with other postsecondary institutions in Edmonton through initiatives like the Grant MacEwan transfer program, the U of A has not partnered with other colleges to create new space.

However, it does have several building proposals in place that would create more space for U of A students.

"[Space] is an issue," said U of A Provost Dr Carl Amrhein. "We have a series of proposals in front of the provincial government that would see two new buildings constructed."

He explained that the two proposed buildings are the Ambulatory Learning Centre (a partnership with Capital Health), and the Centennial Centre for Interdisciplinary Science (which would replace the current physics building).

But Amrhein said that no plans are in the process to create a facility that would specifically be shared with other institutions.

"Whether we would ever imagine an explicit facility that is multi-institutionalized, I don't know."

The driver, who displayed obvious signs of intoxication, was issued a 24-hour suspension. He was also charged with operating an unregistered motor vehicle and failing to produce a driver's license. The vehicle was towed.

### ANOTHER DEGENERATE DRIVES DRUNK

In the wee hours of the morning on 6 February, 5-0 spotted a black Honda performing stunts near the intersection of 112 Street and 87 Avenue.

Security stopped the vehicle south of the Butterdome, where the driver admitted to having consumed at least six drinks. Police issued a 24-hour suspension for the drunkard, whose vehicle was towed.

## STREETERS

Recently, a client was stabbed at the Globe Tap Bar and Grill.

Do you think bar owners have an obligation to provide clients with a safe environment?



Martin Wong  
Engineering II



Dean Nair  
Science IV



Nicole Doucet  
Education III



Megan Vorster  
Science I

I think so. You're paying for some enjoyment when you go to a bar. To enjoy it, you have to feel safe, so it's their obligation to make it a safe place for their patrons.

Well yeah, people are coming to spend money. If they don't feel safe, that's no good. But I don't think they should be infringing on business owners' rights, like with the Barwatch system. But they should beef up security, especially with the recent rash of incidents.

I think so. I'm from a small town and [the Barwatch is] kind of discouraging. Not a lot of people are going to want to go out if they don't think that it's safe, so I think bar owners really do have a bit of an obligation.

I definitely think so, but I think they'll lose a lot of business too, because they're not taking care of their clients properly. I know I won't go to the Globe right now; I'd think twice about it for sure.

Compiled and photographed by Caitlin Crawshaw and Scott C Bourgeois

## Sweethearts Special on Valentine's Day

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# U of A expands to the inner city

TIANNA MAPSTONE  
News Writer

While courses in critical thinking are luxuries not often afforded to Edmonton's less fortunate, several U of A students are giving inner-city adults the chance to learn university subject matter.

Modelled after a similar program at the University of British Columbia, Humanities 101 was initiated by fourth-year U of A students May Lin and Sharon Yeo in an attempt to enrich the lives of Edmonton's poor.

The program gives poverty-stricken Edmontonians an opportunity to sample university-level subjects, from film studies to art history, photography, and critical thinking in a semi-formal academic environment.

Lin said programs exercising the creative part of people's minds are important as a contrast to the stark job-training and literacy programs which are often the only option for self-improvement in the inner city.

"We draw from different types of interests and [students] get a meaningful way to engage in society. We want them to find that learning is a lot of fun. It's not just in order to get a job but something beyond that," said Lin.

Students, Humanities 101 students attend out of interest, said Phyllis Steeves, coordinator for The Learning Centre Literacy Association, where the classes are held.

Students critically analyzed a morning news program during last Thursday's film studies and critical thinking class. They then shared personal feelings about the segments and discussed how the drama of televised news is played out.

**"We draw from different types of interests and [students] get a meaningful way to engage in society. We want them to find that learning is a lot of fun. It's not just in order to get a job but something beyond that."**

MAY LIN,  
HUMANITIES 101 COORDINATOR

101 fully engaged with pen in hand, extolling the benefits of the program. "It makes me more literate," he said.

"When you don't use [your brain] you really have to look for it, but when you use it, you start thinking, then your mind grows broader. You start thinking about more of everything."

All instructors are volunteers, as are the student facilitators helping in the classrooms. A small grant from the U of A's Office of the Dean of Students will aid in the purchase of food, bus tickets and disposable cameras to be distributed to the students in the photography classes beginning in March.

However, budget constraints continue to be an issue for the project coordinators. While students beginning the UBC Humanities 101 program in 1998 were able to secure a substantial amount of funding in their first year, Lin and Yeo had difficulty ensuring operating funds, prompting them to seek partnerships outside the University with The Learning Centre and the Boyle Street Co-op in the inner city.

Partnership with The Learning Centre allows for the use of existing classes, Steeves noted. Students there are already working on basic literacy and math skills and are motivated to improve themselves. Lin and Yeo are hopeful they can expand the service and attract others as well. The partnerships have proven helpful, they say, giving them a firm grounding in the community.

"Having the support of the community, I think, is really important in continuing Humanities 101 long-term," said Yeo.

Adults of all ages, backgrounds and abilities attend the lectures; some cannot read, and others have some high-school education. In a well-worn classroom plastered with students' work, they sit in groups at tables, fascinated and intent to learn. Here they are given the respect afforded to any ordinary undergraduate student.

In contrast to many undergrads who often take classes often out of necessity,

## Students still racially segregating: organizers

DECONSTRUCTION • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"For example, it has put young black men in a certain construct, which I feel is narrow, inaccurate and incomprehensible. It is also very homophobic and racially prejudiced."

Keteku added that for this reason, the group chose to launch the project this February, during Black History Month.

Their attack will begin with a presentation entitled "Hip hop = black (no)," which will take place on 10 February on SUB stage.

"Hip hop is not a black culture. It never has been an exclusive black culture, people are urban American culture, but definitely not a black culture," argued Keteku.

In fact, one of the main goals of HIP is to demonstrate that no form of music is specifically associated with only one racial or cultural grouping, Keteku added.

**"I am a really big advocate of multiculturalism and I just find that in Canada we end up segregating so much. Of course segregation is subliminal; we don't do it on purpose, but it still does happen."**

JACKIE FERNIE,  
ASSISTANT  
DECONSTRUCTION ORGANIZER



FIGHT THE STEREOTYPE Jackie Fernie and Ian Keteku team up to deconstruct.

combining hip hop, rock, folk, traditional African music, jazz and funk.

The three-part series will conclude that evening with a night of poetry, presentations and an open-floor discussion, giving students of all ethnic backgrounds the opportunity to address the issues faced in a multicultural society.

One of the biggest issues still faced, according to assistant Deconstruction organizer Jackie Fernie, is the extent to which students still segregate themselves along cultural and racial lines.

"I am a really big advocate of multiculturalism and I just find that in Canada we end up segregating so much. Of course segregation is subliminal; we don't do it on purpose, but it still does happen."

"People just aren't as accepting and tolerant as they claim to be. I think that if more people started getting more comfortable with approaching other cultures, then I think that is the number-one way of getting rid of

racism," said Fernie.

It's the hope of the organizers that Deconstruction 2005 will make people stop and think about issues such as racial segregation, racism, multiculturalism and even subcultures like hip hop, punk or any other which students adopt.

Fernie stressed that people should examine themselves and subscribe to a subculture that really suits who they are as a person, not simply because of their skin colour or because of imposed stereotypes.

Such issues are often ignored during the bustle of everyday life, said Keteku. He hopes the program for Deconstruction 2005 will provide students with the opportunities to examine their own preconceived notions about particular groups of people.

"The deconstruction model that we impose will make people think about what they think, why they think the way they do, and if they actually believe these thoughts."

To promote this, HIP has arranged a performance by Afterword, a local band that showcases their multi-racial and cultural roots through their music,



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# OPINION

opinion@gateway.ualberta.ca • tuesday, 8 february, 2005

## Alcohol label warnings nice, but will they work?

A PRIVATE MEMBER's bill debated in the House of Commons yesterday could result in health warning labels being placed on bottles of alcohol, much as cigarette packages are currently labeled.

The Ontario backbencher who put forth the bill lost his father to alcoholism, and has been pushing to have the labels placed on the bottles, not as a means of preventing alcoholism, but to prevent drinking-and-driving deaths and drinking during pregnancy.

As anyone familiar with alcohol abuse understands, the substance can cause enormous physical and psychological trauma to the drinker and his or her loved ones. And there is no doubt that drinking and driving needlessly takes the lives of many. But as warning labels the smartest method of deterring alcohol abuse?

The key to this question lies in the success of its predecessor, specifically the disturbing ways I have noticed friends and acquaintances respond to the health warnings placed on cigarette packages. Some find the disturbing images of deteriorating organs and mouth cancer almost comical, choosing to collect the rarely graphic packages like hockey cards. Others try to avoid looking at the images, and complain that it is their God-given right to smoke, that the government should leave it alone, et cetera. The levels of denial surrounding smoking seem to differ tremendously, so do the reactions to the labels vary accordingly.

But among my acquaintances and friends, the labels don't seem to be making anyone quit. Though they regularly stare at the warning labels as they slide their cigarettes out of the package and light up, most of my smoker friends and acquaintances haven't even attempted to quit since the implementation of the label system. Nor have many of them decreased the number of cigarettes they smoke, for that matter.

For this reason, the possibility of alcohol warning labels preventing people from causing harm to themselves or others seems questionable. Alcoholics are addicts, like cigarette smokers. As such, they will be driven to drink, and in most cases, will be fully aware of the consequences. And for those non-alcoholics inclined to drink to stupidity only occasionally, a label on a bottle may be more amusing than informative. Admittedly, just as with smoking, the levels of denial among drinkers differs greatly, and certainly there is a chance that the labels will give someone the extra nudge they need to get cracking on quitting, but for the most part, labels on bottles of alcohol will do little to motivate irresponsible or addicted adults to use alcohol in moderation or, for that matter, quit.

Instead of slapping labels on bottles, more money should be put into early education. Much more would be accomplished by teaching children and young adults the benefits of coping with stress and about the dangers of alcohol abuse. Changing societal attitudes about drinking is a massive undertaking, to be sure, and small warning labels on bottles of beer will never prevent Uncle Fred from downing a six pack of beer on Thanksgiving, or a first-year student from drinking to the point of alcohol poisoning.

CAITLIN CRAWSHAW  
News Editor

## Surprise: Superbowl actually a good game

I DON'T KNOW what has gotten into the NFL, but for the second year in a row, the Superbowl was actually a good game. Sure, Donovan McNabb really balled up at the end, but overall it was some high-tension, championship-level football.

Although there was a clear favorite, the teams were well matched, and the game showed it: never was there any time where it looked like the game was unwinnable by either team until the dying seconds.

Even the half-time show was the most slickly produced in years, focusing on just one star instead of a dozen performers battling for the spotlight.

So to sum up: good job NFL.

DANIEL KASZOR  
Production Editor

## LETTERS

### 'Homophobes,' gays, can't 'just get along'

At the end of his recent letter to the Gateway, Stephen Kenny asks of homophobes and gays, "Can't we all just get along?" ("Ostard, Christians, just need to get along," February). Kenny himself states that he has no "flaring opinion on same-sex marriage." It is only for that reason that he can even ask such a question.

As someone who very much has a stake in gay rights, I'd like to answer his question now. No, Stephen, we can't. We can't get along until the law fully recognizes me as your equal. We can't get along until I can walk down Whyte Avenue with my boyfriend's hand in mine and not have to expect snickering and catcalling. We can't get along until schools recognize that homosexuality exists and engage with it rather than attempt to ignore it. We can't get along until I no longer live in a world in which who I love is anyone's business but my partner's and mine.

Kenny says he believes that we should all tolerate of everyone's beliefs. Well, I sure as hell don't. When your beliefs are used as a weapon against my private life, they have overstepped their boundaries. I refuse to tolerate any belief system that would justify protesting at my funeral. I refuse to tolerate any belief system that publicly equates me and mine with animals and child rapists. I refuse to tolerate any belief system that claims love as its primary tenet even as it works to foster hatred and misunderstanding towards me. I spit in the face of any belief system that targets me in such ways.

Kenny accuses gay-rights advocates of being narrow-minded. You're damned right I'm narrow-minded! I'm tired of being told to get along with those who are actively working against my right to exist, succeed, and grow. The suggestion that guys should tolerate public defamatory and fear mongering is not only offensive, but also displays a staggering ignorance of the issues that are at play. If, for one, will narrow-mindedly continue to hate and fight against anyone who makes the choice to wage a public fight against my private life.

JEFF GAGNON  
Graduate Studies I

### English classes don't teach grammar, Gaumont

Adam Gaumont has done nothing but make a fool of himself with his blatant exaggeration in "First-year English should be mandatory" (February), and certainly didn't make a very strong case for English being a valid mandatory first-year course. Despite showing how obnoxious somebody who is clearly on the verge of illiteracy can be, nowhere does he explain how first-year English would cure this.

Yes, spelling and grammar are



## ANOTHER SUPERBOWL DISASTER

important, even in papers for an engineering course. No, first-year English does not focus on spelling and grammar. During the two semesters I had to spend talking English 101, there was not a single class devoted to spelling and/or grammar. So when, exactly, is my writing going to degenerate into Internet acronyms, punctuation smiley faces, and symbols/graphic as, Gaumont seems to suggest?

When, exactly, is being able to articulate how an author suggests the motivation for a character through symbolism and irony going to help me in whatever my area of interest is? Is it culture, chemistry, or economics? Is it architecture? The fact that an abysmal performance in English 101, due not to horrific spelling and grammar, but to a lack of literary analysis and a lack of criticality as a writer—because, yes, literature is art—could keep me from gaining entrance to a program of interest? Is failing to realize the irony of Kafka really a grave enough shortcoming that I shouldn't be allowed to study what I want?

Now make no mistake, I took a lot away from my English 101 class—the most important of which, to me, being the anthology that I've enjoyed reading since I finished that course. But it certainly would have been a lot more cost effective, in terms of my money, the University's money, and my GPA, for me to just buy the book from the bookstore.

ADAM PERLAND  
Science II

### Grebinski misquoted about Lapham

This letter is in response to Derek Grebinski's misquoted opinion piece "Lapham proves how doleful Canadians are" (February).

I'm not sure why Grebinski expected that Lapham—an expert critic of US domestic and foreign policy—would come up here to discuss Canadian politics. It's akin to expecting the Pope to visit Iran and speak only on Islam; absolutely ridiculous.

Lapham was probably invited here to speak to young journalists and Edmontonians about the state of George W. Bush's centre-of-the-universe attitude when it comes to

foreign policy, since this is his area of expertise—a cursory reading of Lapham's "Notebook" column in Harper's clearly demonstrates this. If Grebinski expected Lapham to discuss the implications of same-sex marriage in Canada, or the south LRT expansion here in Edmonton, then his Spalding hat is obviously a few notches too tight.

I personally enjoyed hearing Lapham speak, and though some of the insipid questions from the audience were frustrating, the things he had to say were obviously quite well-received by the intelligent people in attendance who gave him a standing ovation at the conclusion of his talk.

THOMAS McCREADY  
Arts V

### Hippies are people, too

In two separate articles in the 3 February edition of the Gateway, columnists prefaced their opinions with disclaimers similar to "I'm not a hippie, but..." ("I'd give up cellphones for a little peace and quiet," Chloë Fidio, and "Human billboards are really starting piss me off," Josh Kremmer), making this reference to an abstract group of people that they fail to define serves only to reinforce overused and cliché stereotypes such as "granola munchers."

But this is not my point. The problem is the apparent inability to stand up as an individual and voice valid opinions without such a disclaimer. In the columns I refer to, attempts to avoid any possible association with any given subculture were unnecessary, as both individuals spoke to real issues that a broad range of people can identify with.

In the first column, Ma Fedio expressed a desire for keeping enclosed public spaces free of cellphones. However, by stressing her need to not come across as a "new-age hippie rant," she dilutes her call for what is simply a request of greater respect. In other words, the point is well taken without a need to worry about associations being made.

Mr. Kremmer, writing in his usual artistic style of journalism, finds himself "agreeing with hippies" when he realizes that pervasive advertising, sometimes in human form, has crept into almost every corner of his waking life—including

the institution where we pay for education, not to look at ads—and that this is no longer agreeing with him. I would question if it is really just the "hippies" in Humanities Centre, or the "hippie castle" as he cleverly refers to it, that are tired of people trying to "sell us shit."

The extension of this is a commonly shared fear of not wanting to express dissent for risk of association with groups that may have negative societal connotations. This is not a pattern isolated to our University. It is time to move away from labels and feel free to express our opinions from a place of what we truly believe to be real, regardless of associations we have made between our opinions and certain groups of individuals.

TARA IRWIN  
ENCS IV

### Praise for Jeff Zorn

I think Jeff Zorn is a great example for all of us as a Bears hockey player ("Defensive Zorn helps lead GoldenBears," 3 February). Ever since I met him in October 2000, he has given me lots of encouragement, support and prayers since my mom died 26 months ago. Now, with my dad dying, he always has an ear to listen and gives me strength to go on and be the University of Alberta's sports Super Fan! It's great to see Jeff Zorn overcome lots of things that we all face and help us to become better people in this hurting world.

ROBERT SOLOVIEV  
University of Alberta Super Fan

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building, or e-mailed to [opinion@gateway.ualberta.ca](mailto:opinion@gateway.ualberta.ca).

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems to be discriminatory, obscene, threatening, libelous, or otherwise hateful in nature.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the name, student identification number, program, and year of study of the author, to be considered for publication. Anonymous letters will not be considered. For the record, I actually like Paul McCartney.

# Christians: let's break the 'Holy Huddle'



ANDREW TEAL



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: MATT FREHNER

Being Christian on campus offers some unique and interesting opportunities to explore and enrich our faith that often go unrealized in the setting of the Christian community. Exploring literature from various times and places offers the opportunity to gain insight into how different people deal with many of the emotions and situations that our faith addresses. Delving into the natural sciences gives us a unique opportunity to more fully understand the way in which the world around us operates, and as the Bible says, to more fully appreciate the ways in which nature declares the glory of God.

And certainly one of the most exciting and unique ways in which the University can challenge and enrich our faith is in our interactions with our fellow students. Unfortunately, this last method of growth and exploration is often ignored, or worse, feared or reviled by many of the Christians on campus.

Within the subculture of North American Christianity, there is sometimes a disturbing tendency to congregate in small communities and groups to the exclusion of truly interacting with the secular world in which we live. This tendency has often been referred to as the "Holy Huddle," and is a pitfall which is easy to overlook, but can be disastrous in its consequences.

One specific example of this tendency can be seen in the reaction of many of the Christians on campus to the occasionally left-leaning articles in the Gateway which may challenge or seek to refute aspects of our worldview which are central to our faith. I have been disheartened to hear Christian friends and classmates say that they refuse to read the Gateway anymore because they view it as hostile towards their beliefs.

This is a reaction that is not only unfortunate because it prohibits us from

making an intelligent and informed response, but often the act of burying our heads in the sand only confirms the questioning and occasionally negative comments of people who do not truly understand our worldview. If only we would be able and willing to listen to what people have to say and sift through it to sort out the good and recognize the bad, we would be able to be a far more respectable and relevant force on campus.

I'll be the first to agree that often the arguments that Christianity are less than well thought out, or even occasionally commit outrageous fallacies in their reasoning. But I also find that in every article addressing our faith, there is some point made that is worth considering. If we are willing to look past the generalizations and unsubstantiated conclusions, we will see that this is a unique window into the mind of our secular neighbours. Maybe even a unique opportunity to interact with them and, dare I say,

learn from them.

For instance, it may not be true that we should all live in mud huts in order to be called Christians, as some may claim, but the issue of hypocrisy within the Church is very real and pertinent. Individuals may commit a gross generalization to imply that all Christians would rather protest SpongeBob SquarePants than put effort into addressing tolerance, but it does raise the question of whether or not some of our leaders have their priorities straight.

Benjamin Franklin said that our critics are our best friends, because they show us our failures. We may have to wade through a lot of crap to really learn from some of Christianity's critics, but in addressing these issues, the authors have been willing to wade through a lot of our crap. Let's start taking advantage of this opportunity by really listening and responding intelligently. We may find that all these liberal nuts aren't that bad after all.

# Feminism must include everyone to work



GINA GARIANO

There's a lot more to being a feminist than you might think. Last term, I went to watch a presentation of films by five women selected from Calgary's 14th annual Feminist Film Festival.

The showing was entitled "Real Feminie '04," and was put on by the Edmonton Women's Film Society. The first film, by Lee Friedlander, entitled *The Ten Rules (A Lesbian Survival Guide)*, was a look and a laugh at lesbian stereotypes. When the lights came on after the 25-minute show, I overheard two white-haired women discussing it behind me: "I thought this was supposed to be a feminist film presentation?" "Well," replied her friend, "they had to put this [lesbian] stuff somewhere."

I was completely baffled by this statement. I wanted to turn around and explain to these ladies that, in case they hadn't noticed, all lesbians

are women. And I would bet money that many of them claim to be feminists too. And they probably display better feminist visions than these women.

According to many feminists, namely Audre Lorde, feminism leaves out some women—or at least the old-school, white, middle-class-dominated feminism does. On the whole, Lorde argues that this thing we call feminism needs to include all women if it is to have any power in the world today. Feminists need to be concerned about the struggles of that Native girl next door, or the woman in a wheelchair that they take music class with. Women from all walks of life need to be supported and need to support each other, because this feminism thing is not over. It still needs help and revamping and the energy of many women and men to come into it.

I'm also sick of women telling me that they're not feminists. I understand that you don't want to be seen like those white-haired ladies who just don't understand what a lesbian would want with feminism, and you don't want to be some bra-burnning psycho, either. But look up from this newspaper: you're at a university.

There is one reason why women ever got the ability to step inside this institution: feminism. It has paved the way and fought for you to be able to sit in that classroom.

By saying that you're not a feminist, you're only stepping backwards to a time when a woman was not as valued as she is today. You're saying that the possibilities for women in North America and Europe—going to school, voting, deciding when to have children, marrying, whomever they wish, dating—are not valuable and that we could do without them.

But I can't like having opportunities just like the men around me have. I also see that feminism has done so much for me to be where I am. And just like I need the support that feminism gives me to retain the positions I am in—that is a student, a voter, and an opinionated-and-allowed-to-tell-it-woman—all women need the support of other women around them.

Lesbians, women with disabilities, women of differing ethnicities, weight, height, and strength all need to be supported by the power and voice that feminism offers. And we could use the support of the men around us, too.

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## Gizmos are nice, but we could be doing better things with our brains



GRAHAM  
LETTIER

So the human race is the most technologically advanced that it's ever been. Big deal. Have you seen how we're putting our astounding mental clout to use lately?

As an electrical engineer, it makes me sick to my stomach to think I could be doing something as mundane as designing a double-sided DVD burner. If slow-motion replay for a 64-inch flat-screen plasma TV is the best use we can find for our time and effort, then I think I'll let the faculty keep my degree.

And there are more than enough places where talent is being squandered. For instance, Steve Jobs has done a great job making the world better, but a veritable hard-on for smaller, cuter, funkier music players.

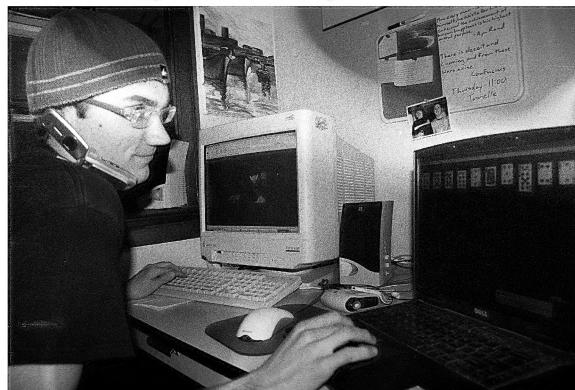
But when you consider that somewhere in Apple's secret underground laboratories hundreds of engineers are frantically developing the next even smaller iPod for teenyboppers around the world, it seems more than just a little wasteful. Then there's the new cellphone. You know, the one with the new colour display, mini digital camera "Ride of the Valkyries" ring tone that went off in your SOC 366 class yesterday, and the Tetris game you downloaded. All of these

technological treats are there because our highly lauded market forces corral engineers to use our pent-up brain waves in the pursuit of electronic luxuries.

Really, though, it's not just us damn engi-nerds; plenty of science graduates are employed by firms that develop baldness-dispelling drugs, or wrinkle-reducing creams, or a tan in a bottle that doesn't turn you into a mottled orange freak. Meanwhile, mathematicians devise methods of calculating the most depressing day of the year—apparently it was Monday, 24 January—and more than a fair share of surgeons perfect the fine science of the botox injection and the tummy tuck. Evidently, there's no lack of ways to squander your enlightened noggin these days.

And, to be honest, these would be okay pursuits if it wasn't for the one or two other worthy projects that could use some attention: tsunami warning systems, cheaper malaria treatments, effective social programs, solar and wind power, confronting Africa's AIDS epidemic, and probably a couple others I haven't thought of. Somehow using supercomputers to lose hard-fought games of chess to Gary Kasparov comes across as being trivial on the global to-do list.

Yet there are instances when we do get it right. Mapping the human genome is one example. Developing climate simulation models to predict the effects of global warming is another. Telescopes searching the heavens and microscopes chasing



**GO GO GADGET** Human ingenuity can give us a lot more than laptops and cellphones.

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: JESSE WHITEHEAD

down viruses are other good ideas. A quick and inexpensive method of testing for BSE would be nice. Sharks with frickin' lasers attached to their heads will have to wait.

Realizing that there is a distinction between the worthy and the hackneyed, we need to refocus our ambitions. Big things can get done if we use our government's power to direct the efforts of our society's best

and brightest, and push companies to think about a future not tied to quarterly earnings. The international space station comes to mind. Another good idea closer to home has been funding a cutting-edge nanotechnology lab here on campus. Market forces are not to be counted on to cure cancer. The invisible hand works for the Swiffer Wet Jet, wrinkle-free pants and the landfill-bound disposable camera,

but the problems that really matter are forever outside its grasp.

We all love the current state of affairs because our iPods can store and play the songs of every dusty action-bound piece of vinyl our parents kept from the '70s. It's just a shame that our mental muscles are used to lift our expectations of first-world luxuries instead of wrestling with our world's toughest problems.

## 'Pirates' giving us what we want



JOEL  
DIFESA

If you've spent any measurable amount of time on the Internet in the past five years or so, you will have come across some content you really shouldn't have had access to. Maybe you ended up reading some blatantly plagiarized story, a news article taken without the first thought of a reference, or you downloaded the full *Napoleon Dynamite* DVD.

Regarding the blessing—or the curse—of the Internet is that it works really well at moving data from one place to another with minimal effort.

But with every positive use for downloading off the Internet, there seem to be 100 other uses that are simply illegal. Recently I've noticed a new highly illegal trend sprouting up on the Internet: I'm finding that more and more textbooks are getting uploaded on IRC or BitTorent sites. Perhaps you've never heard of this happening before, but it turns out that textbook piracy is on the rise.

The process isn't as simple as ripping your Ashlee Simpson CD to MP3, yet nevertheless it's happening right underneath your nose. If you go home this afternoon and fire up your favourite file-sharing program and search for the keyword "textbook," you will find a bevy of digital tomes. A quick search on one file-sharing network I pulled up 150 hits for "textbook," in fact.

Before some of you whip out your trusty pens to write nasty letters to the editor, please understand that this isn't a secret—it's merely a small enough problem that it can be dealt with through a "don't ask/don't tell" attitude. And

really, if anyone can find a complete copy of Windows XP, Photoshop, Acrobat, or any number of programs for any operating system, it shouldn't shock you that your entire English 101 reading list is somewhere on the Internet just waiting for you to download it.

But that's not the interesting thing. The interesting thing is the advantages of digital textbooks. The preferred file format is generally Adobe PDF, which allows several advantages, since these books are essentially complete digital copies of their originals, right down to the colour figures. Do you remember thumbing through a textbook looking for a particular phrase that you couldn't find listed in the glossary? Well, now you can search the complete 1300-page monstrosity in under a second.

The technology exists to make this possible, and as with movies or music, it was the "bad guys" who did it first. In the coming years, as book piracy in general continues to rise, publishers are going to have to find a way to deal with the problem. Inevitably, they'll do it wrong because they'll bat at the idea of changing their business model. They'll fight the file sharers in court while remaining unable to find the individuals who go through the trouble of scanning all the books.

Hopefully, though, this cloud will have a silver lining. These publishers have the books in a digital format to begin with, and they could easily sell these digital copies for less to their customers, namely us. It took the music industry close to five years to figure that out, and they still have it partly wrong. The movie industry is just now starting to find new ways of delivering their movies.

I want digital textbooks, and if the publishers refuse to make them available to me, I'm going to go get them from someone else. It just happens that right now that "someone else" doesn't charge me for them.

## A girl's guide to picking up girls—guys need it



DANIELLE  
PROULX

On a recent "girls' night out," my friends and I had the dubious honour of catching the attention of a group of young men. It quickly became apparent from their idiotic comments and behaviour that their views of women were somewhat skewed. Rather than simply ignore the obvious lack of "mack" as I regularly would, I figured I would help you poor souls out.

See, I understand that you have the tough job—it's you guys who have to put yourself on the line, risking damage to ego, groin or face. The simple fact is that there is one person who can help you to minimize that risk better than a member of the faction causing it. And so I, a girl, will do my best to explain what you are doing wrong, with the hope that you can correct those errors and raise your scoring ratio.

To begin, let us examine a male in his natural environment: a club on a weekend. Let's specifically observe the entrance of a desirable mate. Upon entering a club, there is only one girl who wouldn't die to hear, "Now that's an ass I'd like to tap!"—it makes us males instantly swoon. I know that I can't take my clothes off fast enough for someone of such sive sophistication. Of course, this line is only half as sexy as pickup lines such as, "Baby, are your feet sore? 'Cuz you've been walking through my mind all day!" By that point, we are practically gagging with pleasure at being thought of as such ravishing creatures.

Now don't get me wrong—there are, of course, some corny lines that are simply adorable, and can open up the door to some conversation and maybe even a phone number, but please, any

pickup line that involves the phrase "tap that ass" is about as hot as Danny DeVito in a leather thong.

Although, to be fair, I have to admit that at this point there's still hope. It's all going to come down to your performance on the dance floor, do you dance over towards her and work your way into her space? Do you march right over, cling to her, and dislocate her hips while you hump her leg? Or do you circle around, wait until you're sure she can see you and sneak up? If you do anything aside from the first option, please sign yourself up for sterilization immediately, because there is no girl who can resist the seductive charms of the sneaky-ass leg-hump—if only we all were

so lucky as to be attacked from behind.

Fortunately, most of you guys are pretty good at catching the clues we girls throw out to you when we want to be left alone. Unfortunately, most of you are not very good at doing so when you're drunk. And even more unfortunately, you tend to be drunk at clubs. And believe me, every girl I know plays to find a guy who is swimming in a puddle of his own vomit. So please, next time you're that drunk, spare us the "Hey ladies" line. It's much more effective without the drippy, drool and stench of bile. The best piece of advice I can offer is that drinking makes you ugly, and everyone else hot.

And with that, you should be well armed for a night out from this point forth. You know you have a sex machine hidden within you, and, with a little guidance, it may surface. So get out there and get some.

For one, thought you'd be content with glorifying unsustainable consumption and widening the income gap, but no—you just had to set up ideals of what it was to be a man, too, didn't you? Maybe I want to go tanning once in a while or wear a pink shirt or have sex with a guy. Do any of those things make me less of a man?

As I was filing my nails and contemplating this question, it dawned on me that I wouldn't be worrying about any of this shit if it wasn't for the sun. Yeah, that's right, the sun. I hate that prick, with its penetrating light revealing my ugliness to all and its rays making my grass grow all long so I have to mow it and its ultravioletness burning my pastry, delicate-as European skin. Into the sack with you, Sun. You and your "life sustaining energy" Pussy.

JOSH KJENNER

No sack beatings are ever actually administered.

# SPORTS

## Dinos put end to hockey Bears' streak

ROSS PRUSAKOWSKI  
Sports Writer

There's the good, the bad and then there's the downright ugly—the latter of which was on full display this weekend as the Calgary Dinos and Alberta Golden Bears men's hockey teams took turns playing Evander Holyfield's ear to the other's Mike Tyson.

Things started off perfectly for the Bears on Friday in a packed Clare Drake Arena, as they jumped out to a 4-0 lead less than five minutes in on the way to a 12-0 drubbing of the Dinos. The victory extended a Golden Bears unbeaten streak against the Dinos to an astonishing 45 straight games (39-0-6).

But the following night in Calgary, exactly six years to the day that the Dinos last beat the Bears, the streak came to a screeching halt. The Dinos electrified the Father David Bauer Arena crowd as they dominated the Bears in a 6-2 win.

The Bears were obviously disappointed by the loss—just their third of the season—and the end of the streak. However, head coach Rob Daum was realistic about the effect it will have on his team and the Dinos.

"It's probably the worst thing Calgary could have done, because they don't get any coverage at all; I've been here now for ten years and this is the first year that anyone in the media has ever spoken about the Dinos hockey program," said Daum. "These guys haven't beaten us in six years. So I'm going to be concerned with losing once in six years to a team and think we're not going to rebound? Come on."

It seemed like the trek down Highway 2 sapped the Bears of their energy, while the Dinos came out recharged and looking to get even for the embarrassment of the night before.

"[Friday] we did get absolutely embarrassed, and maybe that's what it took for us to realize that we are a great team and we can play with the best team in the country, the Golden Bears," said Dino forward Gable Gross, a former member of the Bears.

"Maybe [Friday] was the last straw that put us over the edge," added Calgary head coach Scott Atkinson. "It was an ugly night last night and we didn't get much sleep, but helped us come up with a plan that we thought would work, and obviously it did."

While the victory was sweet for the Dinos as a whole, who came off laughing and celebrating, it was even sweeter for some members of the team



THE BEST OF TIMES Jonathan Hobson attacks Calgary's net during Friday's 12-0 Bears win. His team's fortunes reversed the next night in a 6-2 loss.

who had been around nearly the entirety of the streak.

"A lot of us in the locker room haven't experienced what Josh Wotats and Craig Strain have, two guys who have been here for five years and have experienced the five years without winning," said Gross. "To look over in the locker room and see those guys with smiles on their

faces because we beat the Golden Bears means more than anything."

While the Dinos players were jubilant over the victory, Atkinson was a little more reserved and content that his team could now move past the constant talk about their futility against the Bears.

"There's no doubt that I'm glad to get that

blemish off our record, but I'm not like you might think I'd be. I'm not elated. I'm happy that we finally got a job done that we've been waiting to do for a long time," said Atkinson. "I'm not ready to go out and the one on. I'll be waiting for that when we beat them in the next game; winning the last game is what it's all about."

## Hoops Pandas give playoff hopes a boost with sweep of 'Horns

PAUL OWEN  
Sports Writer

With their playoff hopes hanging in the balance, the basketball Pandas' smallest player hefted her team onto her diminutive shoulders and made the biggest two shots of the team's season.

Five-foot-five guard Ashley Wigg drilled two free throws against the Lethbridge Pronghorns with 0.8 seconds remaining Friday night to secure a 74-72 victory for Alberta. They followed the win up with a 67-55 victory on Senior's Night on Saturday, as graduating Pandas Karen Lodge and Stephanie Stolk played their last home game. The wins, coupled with a pair of Calgary losses, moved the Pandas into the eighth and final playoff spot in Canada West, with one weekend remaining in the regular season.

Carly McLeman missed a shot with 12.7 seconds left on Friday and the score tied at 72, but redeemed herself by stealing the ball from Pronghorn guard Kim Bridge and feeding the ball to Wigg, who drove to the basket and was fouled hard.

"I had to make the first one," said Wigg of the most important trip to the line of her young career. "Without the first one the stress is so bad. Make the first one and that's it. I usually pull through under the pressure. I was so nervous,

as I laid on the ground [after the foul] and they were helping me up I just said, 'No, leave me here, I don't want to go.'"

After fouling out of the Pandas' last three games, Wigg was removed from the starting lineup to help her avoid the early foul trouble, and she responded by putting up eleven points, three assists and five steals in 23 minutes. Even coming off the bench, head coach Trix Baker expressed confidence in using Wigg as one of her crunch-time players.

"Ashley loves that pressure," Baker said of her floor general. "That's what she is: money, a pressure player. She'll hit that shot for sure, any day. That's who I'd want at the free-throw line any time in that pressure situation. Ashley, she's gotten into a little bit of foul trouble recently, but tonight she did a much better job of containing Kim Bridge and not taking dumb fouls. She sees the floor so well; she made some unbelievable passes. Even at the end when they were trying to trap her, she just dribbled out of it."

Saturday night saw the senior Stolk lead the Pandas back from a 37-32 half-time deficit to beat the Pronghorns and keep their post-season hopes alive. Stolk hit a jumper halfway through the second half to tie the game at 42—the first time the Pandas hadn't trailed since early in the first—and bombed a three-pointer with 6:15 left

to put the Pandas up 48-47, a lead they would not relinquish. Alberta rolled off a 14-3 run after that, capped off by an athletic, driving layup from Stolk.

"There was a little bit of nerves going into it, but it was a great ending. Everything else put aside, our biggest goal tonight was to win, and that's all I was thinking about: take the game first and leave all the rest for later," said an emotional Stolk after helping engineer the victory in her final game.

"It's amazing, because she really is playing on one leg, and she has huge pain that she can't do anything about," said Baker of her veteran forward, who's been playing through a knee injury for much of the season. "She did a great job on [Angela Thompson], getting a hand up on every shot. I thought she did a great job defensively, not just offensively, but she's very capable of hitting that big shot."

Despite now being at least temporarily in a playoff position, Baker wasn't fully satisfied with her team's effort this past weekend.

"We tried to lose it again. They dug down really deep and that's great, but we made a lot of mistakes in the middle, but I thought they played really well at the end. I thought Ashley went in, made some superb passes and really took care of the ball. They played like a veteran team in the end," she said.



MATT FREDRICK  
PLAYOFF PUSH Pandas forward Carly McLennan drives to the basket during Alberta's 67-55 win over the Lethbridge Pronghorns on Saturday night.

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- Number of times the word "asshole" was used in an article: 9
- Number of times the word "bitch" was used in an article: 20
- Number of times the phrase "peanut-butter handjob" was used in an article: 1

- Number of times the word "ass" was used in an article: 70
- Number of times the word "shit" was used in an article: 70
- Number of times the words "dink" and "dinks" were used in articles: 5

This "subversive" language is, obviously, not uncommon here at the Gateway. And we should apologize if we've made you uncomfortable with our invective. But we're not going to. We aren't here to make you feel comfortable; we're here to inform you, make you think, and provoke debate. But if we haven't done that, then we do indeed apologize.

\*data is from 2002 to present.

**THE GATEWAY**  
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# Hoops Bears sweep Pronghorns, move into tie for first place

CHRIS OLEARY  
Sports Writer

With their controversial loss to Brandon behind them, the Golden Bears basketball team bounced back over the weekend to pick up two much-needed wins against the visiting Lethbridge Pronghorns clinching a playoff spot and eliminating the Pronghorns.

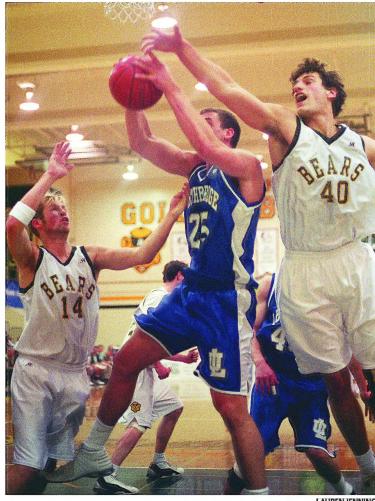
Alberta was dominant in the sweep, winning 77-59 on Friday before trouncing the 'Horns 87-57 on Saturday night in the Main Gym. The Bears were firing on all cylinders in both games and showed that they're capable of controlling a game from both inside and out. Posts Phil Sudol and Scott Gordon had their way with the Pronghorns' defense all Friday night, combining for 37 points and 16 rebounds. Despite guard Tim Whitehead's 20 points, the Pronghorns were unable to keep up with the Bears' frontcourt firepower.

"In the last four games, teams have really concentrated on Phil," so that leaves me open a lot of the time," Gordon said after finishing with a game-high 22 points. "When Phil gets doubled, I'll be open and the guys are looking for me and getting me the ball."

If Gordon is getting the ball due to the attention that Sudol is drawing, it's because Sudol is showing signs that he's back to his old ways of scoring around the basket after missing the first half of the season due to injury, although the former first-team All-Canadian still sees some room for improvement.

"I wouldn't say I'm quite my old self again, but I'm getting closer," Sudol said. "I thought I was going to come back slowly, and all of a sudden I was right back into it and I felt great. I didn't expect it, but it was a pleasant surprise."

Saturday night's game was preceded by a presentation to the team's departing seniors, guards Tyler Coston and Mike Melnychuk. The pre-game celebration carried over into the game, as the Bears' backcourt turned a ten-minute second-half Lethbridge drought into a 30-point blowout win. Coston was happy to get the win and



LAUREN JENNINGS  
**BEAR PAW** Bears post Phil Sudol (40) attempts a block during Friday's win.

peaked with the overall team performance on the weekend.

"This was our first big blowout of the season and it felt great," he said. "This was the first time that we really all played together, we all played well and we had a lot of fun. It's a good high to have going into the post-season."

Scoring a game-high 18 points, Melnychuk couldn't have been happier to have his final regular-season home game play out the way it did.

"It was kind of weird this morning to wake up and think this could be my last time playing at home in front of my friends and family," he said. "You couldn't ask for a better night to go out. Everyone played well and got a chance to shine."

Golden Bears head coach Don Horwood was in good spirits after

Saturday's game after finding out that a Saskatchewan win over Calgary had created yet another three-way tie for first place in Canada West's Central Division. "We're moving in the right direction," he said. "We're playing a lot better; we're playing with more poise and more confidence. Overall, I'm pretty happy."

The Bears have two games left in their season, a trip out to the west coast to play Trinity Western and the upstart Simon Fraser Clan, and have a strong shot at claiming first place in their division. With the playoffs approaching, Melnychuk thinks the Bears have hit their stride at the perfect time.

"If we bring it like we did in the second half [Saturday], we can play with anyone in the country ... we know we can."

## SPORTS SHORTS

### Wrestling

Pandas wrestler Heidi Kulak suffered her first loss of the season at the Dave Schultz International tournament in Colorado Springs, Colorado over the weekend, but went on to win the bronze medal in the 66kg weight class. Kulak lost a decision (1-0, 0-0) to Canadian senior champion Helen Henrich, but in the bronze-medal match she beat Natasha Umemoto of the United States by pin in 1:06. In her other two matches, she won decisions over Maria Muller of Germany (1-1, 0-2, 2-0) and Tori Adams of the US (1-0, 2-1). Kulak now has a 27-1 record this season.

### Men's Volleyball

The top-ranked Golden Bears (7-1) clinched first place in both Canada West and the Mountain Division with a pair of wins over the Winnipeg Wesmen (7-1) in Winnipeg, coupled with a 3-2 win by Manitoba over Trinity Western on Saturday. Friday, the Bear beat Winnipeg in straight sets (25-17, 28-26 and 26-24). The next night, they won 3-2 (20-25, 25-23, 22-25, 25-21 and 15-14). Nicholas Cundy led the Bears attack with 35 kills.

### Women's Volleyball

The fourth-ranked Pandas (11-7) solidified a fourth-place finish in Canada

West with a split of two matches against the third-ranked Wesmen (5-3) in Winnipeg. Alberta lost 3-1 (25-18, 18-25, 25-22 and 25-21) on Friday, before winning 3-2 (19-25, 26-24, 21-25, 25-17 and 15-13) on Saturday.

### Women's Hockey

The top-ranked, undefeated Pandas extended their perfect record to 18-0 over the weekend with a pair of road wins over the Lethbridge Pronghorns (4-10-4), 5-0 on Friday and 5-1 on Saturday. As usual, the line of Tarin Podliski (three goals and one assist), Danielle Bourgois and Kristen Hagg (one goal and three assists each) led the Pandas' scoring.

VOLLEYBALL  
TRINITY WESTERN  
Friday • Bears 6:30, Pandas 8:15  
Saturday • Pandas 6:30, Bears 8:15  
Main Gym

For event info: [www.bears.ualberta.ca](http://www.bears.ualberta.ca) • 492 BEAR

ATHLETICS

HOCKEY  
UBC  
Friday & Saturday  
Pandas • 4:00pm  
Bears • 7:30pm  
Clare Drake Arena

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Kokanee Students Union

**VARSITY STATS****Men's Hockey**

Canada West standings

Mountain Division

Team	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	P
Alberta	24	20	4	0	122	51	41
Calgary	24	9	10	5	83	70	23
UBC	24	5	14	5	67	103	23
Lethbridge	24	3	19	2	61	128	8

Great Plains Division

Team	GP	W	L	T	GF	GA	P
Saskatchewan	24	16	5	3	100	70	35
Manitoba	26	15	6	5	98	67	35
Regina	26	5	16	5	72	105	15
x-Clinched playoff spot (top six overall qualify)							
y-Clinched first place in division							

**Results**

Friday

Calgary v Alberta 12

Lethbridge 4 UBC 1

Regina 4, Manitoba 4

Saturday

Alberta 2, Calgary 6

Lethbridge o UBC 4

Regina o, Manitoba 2

CIS top ten (last week)

1 Alberta (1)

6 Lakehead (8)

2 Saskatchewan (2)

7 UOTR (7)

3 Manitoba (4)

8 Acadia (NR)

4 Moncton (9)

9 Saint Mary's (6)

5 Western (3)

10 SFU (NR)

# Twin sisters are doing it for themselves

**Tegan and Sara**

with Linda

Red's

Wednesday, 9 February at 8pm

**TYSON KABAN**

Arts & Entertainment Writer

The music industry has never been about the music, a sobering fact that Tegan and Sara had to accept early in their career. With no control over the fact that they're women, twins and gay, the Canadian duo has had to work twice as hard as most artists to convince the public that there's more to them than the sensational fodder the press seems so eager to push.

"My God, when will it stop?" Sara Quin says from Vancouver. "Whenever there's any kind of discrimination, homophobia or sexism that we face, it's all been tacked onto us by society. It seems like when one part of the press stops focusing on our personal stuff and mentions our music, another starts having a field day with it. There's nothing we can really do except continue to be who we are, be proud of who we are and, at some point, we'll keep putting out records and it will become less relevant."

Although Sara would be quite content if another pair of gay, pixie-cut twins hit the scene and alleviated some of the attention, it's a struggle for the twins to completely disregard what makes them who they are.

"It's a very awkward position for us to be in. I didn't choose to be a twin, I didn't choose the face that I got and I didn't choose to be gay," she says. "These are things that I am proud of and are a part of who I am, but they're not things that I chose. It's really tough because I do want to be different than other bands, but not because of those things."

Hopefully Tegan and Sara's newest release, *So Jealous*, will squash the idea that the sister act is just a gimmick. The new record marks a musical progression for the duo. It's more polished than their early work and even though Tegan and Sara wrote their own songs in very different places, geographically and emotionally, it's a surprisingly cohesive album.

"We were living in different parts of the country when we were writing this record and



Tegan's songs were coming out a lot differently than mine. I had just gotten out of a long-term relationship so I was writing about my breakup. I haven't been single since I was 18 and I was dealing with suddenly not having a left wing," she says.

"But Tegan was in the exact opposite place. She was in a long-term relationship, very stable, and writing about other people's relationships and the insecurities within her own relationship," says Sara.

"Initially it was sort of unsettling to hear somebody yell 'I love you,' like, ten times in a

were written very individually started to warp and sound like one singular voice—even though we are two very independent songwriters."

But more than just being singers and songwriters, Tegan and Sara are fans. They love the independent women of Bikini Kill and L7, adore past tourmates Hot Hot Heat and Ryan Adams, but most of all, the girls are fanatical about the people who support their music and see their shows.

"Initially it was sort of unsettling to hear somebody yell 'I love you,' like, ten times in a

show. Like, are we Backstreet Boys?" she jokes. "I used to think that if adoration's not about our music then I don't care. But it would be unfair to tell those people that they can't be excited about us."

"If one of the main drives behind the fans liking us is that they finally have someone that they can sexualize or look up to, I don't mind being the alternative to Britney Spears," she says. "I'm confident enough to know that if you took the time to get to know us, you would probably like us."

## Stay in the closet, Boogeyman

**Boogeyman**

Directed by Stephen T Kay

Starring Barry Watson, Emily Deschanel, Sky McCole Bartusiak and Lucy Lawless  
Now Playing

**ELIZABETH VAIL**

Arts & Entertainment Writer

There's a special city where horror movies happen. All of the rooms in this city are poorly lit, and what electrical systems they have are erratic and untrustworthy. In this city, everyone below the age of ten and above the age of 70 is pure evil, or at least mildly creepy. Those who aren't spooky are always right about everything, but are never listened to. And bathtubs, showers, and other areas where people have to get naked are hotspots for crazed murderers with supernatural powers.

But if horror movies take place in this hypothetical city, then Boogeyman lives smugly in the suburbs, a 30-minute commute from sophisticated horror-central.

The story begins as Tim (Barry Watson) watches in horror as a monster in his closet snatches his father away into the night. Fifteen years later, he's plagued by nightmares and is still afraid of closets. He even sleeps with the light on. But then his estranged mother (Lucy Lawless) dies, and Tim's called back to the country house of his pre-pubescent years—a place where doorknobs turn by themselves and flashing snapshots

of fear race through his mind.

The movie devotes itself to Tim's wacky home for an hour and a half, eliciting more giggles than shrieks of terror from the audience (any jolts of fear result from the razor-sharp sound effects blaring out of the theater's too-loud speakers). It's all too heavy-handed: watch out for closets! Ravens are signs of evil! Lucy Lawless is a bad mom! And the "suspenseful" rhythm of the movie is just as measured and predictable, moving from a moment of calm, to a moment of hesitation, to some scary music and an omegohorror-hour scare. The rhythm tries quickly, until it becomes akin to the gentle buzz of a massage chair.

During paranormal encounters—these so-called scenes of suspense—the action moves as if the characters and props were dumped into a cardboard box and shaken wildly by a three-year-old child. When the camera is not swirling around like a drunken bee, the movie plots ahead listlessly, grey and tired.

There is nothing especially horrible about this film. There are no frat boys being eviscerated in grotesquely hilarious ways, no couples slaughtered while engaged in naughty premarital sex, no pretty starlet escaping death's clutches by the skin of her teeth (while wearing little else). But there's no creativity, no flashes of insight, no secret about the Boogeyman that explains how his presence in the film holds any relevance past being an easy plot device. This monster should have stayed in the closet.

## Pereira doubles his badass-ery

**Mobadass**

Urban Lounge

Thursday, 10 February at 10pm

**ELIZABETH VAIL**

Arts & Entertainment Writer

Edu Pereira is living a double life. Usually the bass player for Wide Mouth Mason, Pereira has taken on the role of bassist, vocalist, and occasional rhythmic guitarist for his own fledgling group, Mobadass.

It's a double life that Pereira sees as being a benefit to his first band as well as his own career.

"[Mobadass] has made Wide Mouth Mason's sound a lot more focused, because we've taken a lot of the different styles that we've incorporated and put those into side projects," Pereira explains.

"I can see people's point of the reason why it's hard to pick out what our sound is; we play all different styles and now we've narrowed it down to power-trio—really heavy rock."

But Mobadass has its personal rewards for Pereira, too.

"With Wide Mouth, there isn't a song that I write all of. It's always been collaborative. Whereas with Mobadass, it feels like it's more a part of my personality and my culture. It still has the energy of a rock band, but you can dance to it too. It's got some island grooves—my family's from the Philippines—so the music of our home country is really almost reggae-sounding or

Spanish-sounding, a cross between the two."

While his band performs rock covers as well as original songs, their upcoming album—to be released at their show on Thursday—is entirely new, with one special exception: a cover of "Reggae's on Broadway" by Bob Marley.

"It's his least reggae-ish sounding song," Pereira chuckles. "He actually got in trouble from the reggae community when he put it out because it wasn't really reggae; it was more rock and more funk, which is the sound of Mobadass. So I do my own thing with it. We've been playing it live; it's a good one live, and everyone thinks I wrote it!"

And while Mobadass continues to thrive, Pereira's WMM bandmates couldn't be more supportive. At an upcoming tsunami benefit concert in Saskatoon, Safwan Javed, WMM's drummer, convinced Pereira and Mobadass to open the set. "I didn't think that would ever happen," Pereira admits.

Despite the effort it takes to baffle between two bands, Pereira is revelling in the simple joys that come from heading a newborn band still unsteady on its feet.

"I want to stick to the colleges and playing in clubs," he says. "I love that. We used to do that in Wide Mouth and then all of a sudden colleges didn't want to support us because 'You're a big sellout because you're on a major label.'"

But Pereira says he plans on keeping a low, independent profile with Mobadass—all the better for enjoying his double life.

# Jet-set symphonic musician

**Poulenc's Concerto for Organ, Timpani and Strings in G minor**

Edmonton Symphony Orchestra  
Conducted by Anne Manson  
Featuring Gillian Weir on organ  
Winspear Centre  
11 and 12 February at 8pm

SARAH CHAN  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

As students, we all dream of globetrotting, taking that pivotal trip to "find ourselves." After all, for most people, their jobs don't include flying to the most exciting international cities. For Gillian Weir, one of the world's best-known organists, however, such adventure is just another day on the job.

Since her first performance of the famed Poulenc organ concerto in 1965 at the opening night of Proms (a British summer music festival) in London, Weir has been compulsively invited to repeat her rendition of the piece, both for live performances and recordings.

"It's a wonderful piece and the favourite organ concerto. No matter how many are written or how many will be written, we always come back to Poulenc," Weir explains. "It's the orchestra's favourite, too, because of the challenge: the main challenge is to be in perfect cohesion with the orchestra and to have the dramatic timing so the piece works and isn't just churned out—so the piece is a dramatic statement."

Francis Poulenc, a French composer in the early 20th century, was part of a movement which allied with cubism in order to break French music away from impressionism; they



called themselves "Les Six." In terms of Poulenc's organ concerto, Weir says that "[it] truly sums up Poulenc himself; he was described as a monk and libertine ... serious and dark, but then becoming like a fairground which resolves with a moving, quiet ending. It's one piece I never get tired of."

As an experienced soloist, Weir has reached many conclusions about the world she has so vastly travelled, as well as her music and how she feels about it.

"I feel very lucky being a musician. I'm doing something I adore and something that is worthwhile because it

has a message to give people. It's about beauty and sanity. It's not a matter of somebody sitting there and taking notes and observing every note. It's like a chemical reaction; if the music is right it will produce an effect which is the most important thing, not just how to spend an evening when you've nothing else to do."

Weir takes her music very seriously and believes what she does, essentially, is who she is. And for that reason, she's still touring and adjudicating all over the world, despite the occasional jetlag. But then, that's just another part of the job.



## It Dies Today

The Califff Choir  
Trustkill Records  
[www.itdiestoday.com](http://www.itdiestoday.com)

GEOFF CLARKE  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Buffalo, New York group It Dies Today moves between both ends of the metal-core spectrum on their debut LP *The Califff Choir*.

But they ultimately set themselves apart from their hard-rocking brethren with an impressively grueling metal record featuring punishing, creative guitar work and rapid-fire drumming.

The melody-based punk hooks that permeate about three quarters of the disc, however, sound much more generic in comparison.

Songs like "Severed Ties Yield Severed Heads" and the seemingly Zookeeper-inspired "Freak Gasoline Fight Accident" reveal an underlying sense of humour usually absent from music of this ilk.

It should be noted, though, that singer Nick Brooks' requisite turns between singing and screaming fail to match the lyrics' admittedly intermittent distinctiveness.

It Dies Today breaks no new ground with *The Califff Choir*, but the band's distinctive skills successfully distinguish the record from the glut of similar-sounding metal-core acts available today.



## Selena 7ty Six

This Girl's Life  
Big Daddy Records  
[bigdaddyrecords.ca](http://bigdaddyrecords.ca)

ADAM GAUMONT  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Selena 7ty Six's album, *This Girl's Life*, is a collection of soft-core hip-hop beats, ideal for ladies driving to "da club" in "da benz" or, depending on one's financial situation, "da '86 Ford Tempa."

Selena 7ty Six (née Selena Gittens) proves to be a reasonably talented singer-songwriter without being particularly gifted or proficient in any one area. All the songs on the album are written co-written by Selena, except, of course, for the obligatory cover of Bob Marley's "Redemption Song." "Lovely Day" is perhaps the best showcase of her abilities, a catchy melody featuring strong singing and scat.

But the most notable thing about it is that it offers all the predictable, girl-power fare in which the R&B scene is currently awash, and it will undoubtedly be soaked up by the 18-25-year-old, balls-kicking, "I don't need no man" single-female demographic.

Tracks such as "Girl's Gotta Do," "Mr Right," "Girl's Night Out," and "Better Than You" all serve to remind listeners of the unusually high amount of estrogen flowing throughout the album.

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## Kiefer Sutherland: number-one fan

Run Chico Run takes a "fucking brilliant" star endorsement for all it's worth

### **Run Chico Run**

with The Dudes and Bebop Cortez  
Side-track Café  
Friday, 11 February at 8pm

**IRIS TSE**  
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Arranging a top-notch celebrity endorsement can be a tricky thing, but not for Run Chico Run. Kiefer Sutherland—star of TV's *24* and grandson of Tommy Douglas, The Greatest Canadian according to the CBC—thinks the Victoria, BC band is "fucking brilliant."

And it's a celebrity testimonial that the band's been proudly spreading around for some years, after running into a then-not-so-famous Sutherland at a Victoria bar.

"Before he was shooting *24*, he was shooting some movie in Victoria. He's quite a friendly animal, and he was at our show one night. After the show, he came up to us and said he really liked it," says Thomas Shields, Run Chico Run's drummer, bass-synth keyboardist and singer.

But it's no wonder that the band's self-described "futuristic pop-punk"

sound attracted Sutherland. Run Chico Run has a cool, spastic, psychedelic, funky beat that's made their latest CD, *Shashbo*, immensely enjoyable. However, don't expect any simple combination of adjectives to give you a complete picture of their music; even Shields admits that their sound is all over the map.

**"[Kiefer Sutherland]'s quite a friendly party animal, and he was at our show one night. After the show, he came up to us and said he really liked it."**

**THOMAS SHIELDS, DRUMMER,  
RUN CHICO RUN**

"The more reviews and descriptions I read, the less I'm able to describe what it sounds like. It seems to sound different to everybody," he says. "Another thing with our recording is that there are times I know what I

want it to sound like. But other times, as I'm recording, I'd muck around and find different things as I go."

The band is taking a similar approach with their upcoming album. Although *Shashbo* was only released in September, the prolific duo has already gathered enough material for their next album, scheduled for release in August.

"We're pretty much ready to record. We just have to make a few last minute minor adjustments," says Shields.

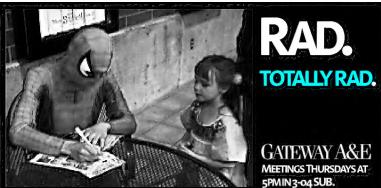
With only two people in the band and only so many pairs of hands, however, the band's live performance often deviates from the complex sounds of their studio recordings. Still, Shields promises those deviations make their music much more interesting.

"We can at most only play three parts at once, whereas some of our recordings have 70 tracks on them. So some of our songs will definitely have a different arrangement and sound different live."

"Also, we make lots of mistakes live too, which is fun for people," adds Shields. "Sometimes people in the audience can point it out and they'd laugh about it."



**STING LIKE A BEE FEEDER** With dorky-cool dance moves and funk-inspired tunes, the Fabulous Bee Feeders warmed up a crowd of two-steppers and cougars Saturday night at the Powerplant



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Campus events and more...

**FarmHouse Fraternity** presents FarmHouse blood challenge from 1-12 February. FarmHouse would like to thank the members of the University of Alberta Gamma Pi Kappa Alpha, Delta Upsilon, Lambda Chi Alpha and Kappa Sigma who participated in FarmHouse's recent blood donation challenge. FarmHouse encourages all eligible members of the University community to donate blood, plasma or platelets at Canadian Blood Services at any time but particularly during our next blood challenge 1-12 February. FarmHouse also thanks all current donors for their commitment to the Canadian blood system. To book an appointment call 1-888-236-6283.

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**WANTED** Established pop/punk band seeking exp. drummer, contact Brett at 668-7509.

**Engineering Students Society (ESS) and Raising the Roof present "Toque Tuesday"** on Wednesday, February 1st. ESS, SUR, ETLC, NIREP and BioSci. There is no cost to attend this event. Hats off... it's Toque Tuesday! Raising the Roof ([www.raisingtheroof.org](http://www.raisingtheroof.org)) is a national charity dedicated to finding long-term solutions to homelessness. You are invited to help "put a cap on homelessness" by joining the annual Toque Tuesday fundraising campaign. Warm your head and your heart! Come to SUR, ETLC, NIREP or BioSci and get your special Toque Tuesday hat to show your commitment to preventing and eliminating homelessness. For more information, please contact Edmonton Housing Trust Fund at 496-2359 or visit [www.raisingtheroof.org](http://www.raisingtheroof.org).

**Lister Hall Students' Association** presents University of Alberta Blood Donor Clinic on Wednesday, 9 February from 4:30pm to 8:30pm in Lister Centre Banquet Room. Canadian Blood Services, together

**SERVICES**

Ski and snowboard reading week tour to Fernie, Skilift Fernie and Castle mtn., 21-24 Feb. Packages starting at \$295 call today 489-7659.

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with the Lister Hall Students' Association, will once again be challenging all staff, students and faculty to come to the blood-donor clinic in the Banquet Room at Lister Centre. All staff and students are again being challenged to prove their strong community spirit. 55 donors are needed to attend the mobile clinic to ensure its success. Bring a friend and help CBS meet, or better yet, beat their goal. To book an appointment call 1-888-2DONATE (1-888-236-6283). Persons 17 years of age and older, weighing over 110 pounds, in good health and in good spirits are urged to make time to give blood. Please drink plenty of fluids prior to donating and bring identification. Donors are eligible to donate every 56 days. Patients depend on you to give the gift of life!

For more information, please contact 1-888-2DONATE (1-888-236-6283) or visit [www.bloodservices.ca](http://www.bloodservices.ca).

**Green Party on Campus** presents Information Meeting on Thursday, 10

positions security, beertub and bartending. Please e-mail resume with references to stolls@rogers.com.

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Non-profit out-of-school care seeks creative

Feb at 2pm in ED 265. The Green Party of Canada is a student group dedicated to environmental issues. The Green Party of Canada and the Green Party of Alberta. Young people are integral to the Green Party and this is a club where they can come together. The Campus Greens realize that the only way to affect change is to be that change. Want to make a difference? Someday is now! Come out to our information meeting and learn more about our club and the Green Party. For more information, please call 481-1666.

**Hillel Jewish University Students Association** presents Hillel Hits Hollywood. Fashion Show and Silent Auction on Sunday, 13 February at 7pm in Dinwiddie Lounge, 2nd floor. Hillel brings to your University an unforgettable event. With support from numerous community stores, this event will be an incredible evening of fashion and glamour. There will be a magnificent

prize for work with school-aged children. Call 481-7911 or e-mail Ken-Lynn at 484-7652, fax 486-7791 or e-mail [esca@edmontonplanet.net](mailto:esca@edmontonplanet.net). Come join the FUN!

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display of Edmonton's urban trends along with a variety of exquisite auction items. All proceeds from the event will go to support WEM's a shelter for abused women and children. For more information, please contact JCC, Jewish Community Centre or Lais Rumel at JCC: 487-0585 or Lais: 237-7758.

**HAPPY BOB KNOWS** is a service provided for Registered Student Groups and University Departments only. HBK is only printed in the Tuesday editions of the Gateway each week. HBK is a student publication that are weekly, on-going or not open to the public and must have no entry fee. The Gateway can refuse to print any submission for any reason. Events listed in HBK are not endorsed by the Gateway Student Journalism Society or the staff of the Gateway. Submissions will print for one issue only. To submit an entry please go to [www.gatewayualberta.ca/hbk](http://www.gatewayualberta.ca/hbk). For more info call 492-6661, fax 492-6665 or e-mail [production@gateway.ulberta.ca](mailto:production@gateway.ulberta.ca).



LEANNE FONG

**CROSSWORD**

The 3 February crossword entitled *The History of the Future* was compiled by Scott C Bourgeois.

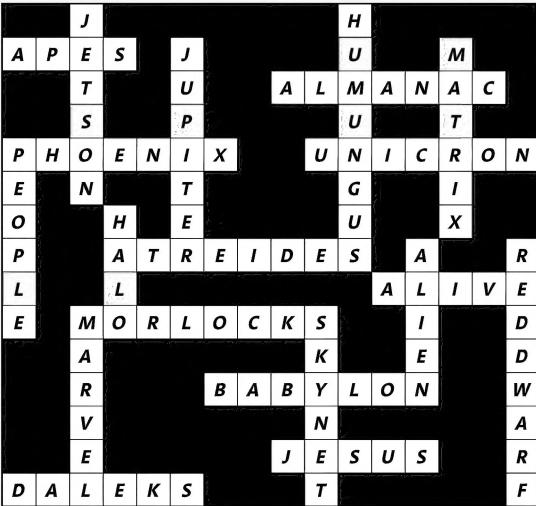
The next crossword will be in the Thursday, 10 February issue and will be entitled *The Sexword*.

By the way, what do you think of this new crossword thing we're doing? Love it? Hate it? Mostly indifferent? Shockingly apathetic? Send any of your comments or concerns to production@gateway.ulberta.ca.

Do you have any ideas for future crossword topics? Send those to the e-mail address above, care of Daniel Kaszor, the Production Editor, who's in charge of designing the crossword.

The Gateway Crossword appears every Thursday with solutions appearing the following Tuesday. The crossword answers are verified by an independent panel of Gateway editors and volunteers, proven by a series of ordeals to be infallible.

Answer key to the Thursday, 3 February crossword puzzle.

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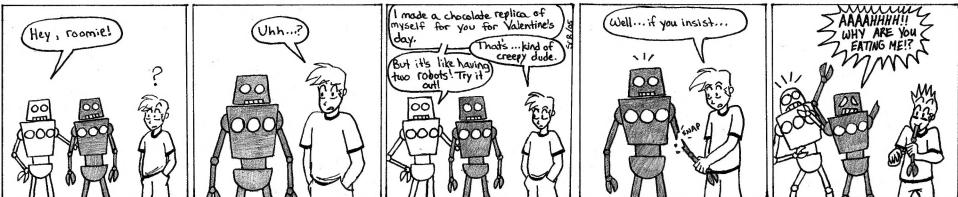
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ANNA by Megan Simko



FRANK BARON, NSO by Jeff Martin



MOSH PIT HEROES by Allison &amp; Amber Chipman



# More than just studying

Campus Rec offers unique opportunities for students to escape the books



Feature by Robin Collum

Photos by Julian Fulker

**T**he Butterdome concourse on a Tuesday evening is an unlikely location for a fitness class, let alone a kickboxing class. But there they are, lined up in front of the locked concession stands, overlooking the shot-put practice on the floor below, waiting for their turn with the kicking bag. One on each side of the bag, they bounce and kick, bounce and kick, in time with the pop-punk blaring from the portable stereo against the wall. Beads of sweat roll down their temples.

"I just got tired of going to the gym, lifting weights, doing cardio," says Lisa Nicolai, a U of A grad student who has been taking kickboxing classes here for two years. "I wanted to try something different."

Who can blame her, really? At the best of times, it can be pretty hard to pull away from those textbooks for a little exercise when all there is to look forward to is an hour on a treadmill. But now that second semester is in full, mind-numbing swing, it's even harder. Everyone is behind in their readings, midterms are looming, and it's prime essay season, making it especially easy to get bogged down in homework and let friends, personal hygiene, and physical activity fall by the wayside.

What stressed-out students need is something new and exciting to get them off the couch and motivate them in a way the stationary bike never could. Luckily, there are a lot of options on campus for the discerning student. There are clubs, teams, fitness classes, and non-credit courses in almost any sport imaginable; anyone should be able to find something to suit them.

"Joining clubs and student extracurricular activities is fun," says Mike Chow, assistant director of Campus Recreation. "There's more to being a student on this campus than just going to class and the things you learn in books."

One of those things is meeting new people and making new friends, which is almost inevitable if you join a team. If you spend hours and hours with someone, participating in mutual interests, you're bound to hit it off.

"It's really enjoyable to come here every week and see the same people," says Nicolai. "You get to know them over the course of a semester or year. You get to see how much each other is improving and help each other out if you can."

Trent Magis, president of the U of A Capoeira Club, which teaches students the basics of the Brazilian martial art, agrees that the social aspect of Campus Recreation is one of the most important.

"The best benefit to me has been finding a good group of people who have become essential part of my family," he emphasizes. "I spend hours each day with them. It's really a social thing for me as well as being active. We get together, have parties, and go out; it's really just a lot of fun."

Kickboxing is a 2000-year-old martial art from the

battlefields of ancient Thailand. Capoeira, on the other hand, was developed in Brazil only a few centuries ago by slaves trying to protect themselves.

"Because they were slaves, they couldn't let the slave master know they were creating a martial art," explains Magis. "I like to describe it as a martial art that's pretending to be a dance. They had to hide it from the slave masters as a dance."

When you watch it, you can certainly understand how Brazilian slave owners could have been fooled into thinking they were seeing a dance—an aggressive and intensely focused dance with twirling kicks, but a beautiful dance nonetheless.

**"Because they were slaves, they couldn't let the slave master know they were creating a martial art. I like to describe it as a martial art that's pretending to be a dance. They had to hide it from the slave masters as a dance."**

**Trent Magis, president of the U of A Capoeira Club**

With bare feet and loose-fitting clothing, club members go through rhythmic movements in a Van Vlet Centre aerobics studio. Brazilian capoeira music—Portuguese lyrics sung over up-tempo drum beats—plays in the background. The coach sings along absentmindedly during some of the choruses.

The physical benefits of participating in a Campus Rec club like capoeira depend on what you do, as will the time commitment.

Kickbox and you'll notice an improvement in your agility, strength, coordination, cardiovascular health, and balance, says Nicolai.

Rowing is likewise an activity that targets many facets of fitness, according Florent Boisson, coach of the U of A Rowing Club.

"Rowing is awesome because it's a total workout. Everything is working—your legs, your arms, your back, and your heart as well," explains Boisson.

"Plus it's a fun sport, because you spend your time on the water, which in Edmonton is very nice because we're located in the river valley. It's a nice area. It's in the city but it seems to be in the countryside."

Novice rower Marilyn Hermanson particularly enjoys that aspect of her sport.

"My favourite part of rowing is when you're on the water and it's calm; the river is just smooth and you're gliding along," she explains.

Seasoned rowers will regale rookies with stories of waking up before the sun in the summer and having to navigate the river in the early-morning fog, when all you can see of the other boats is the single light on each bow. But for that, rookies will have to wait. The U of A club's on-water season is in September and October, and training is in the afternoons. But as the end of October nears, different problems arise. The water level drops, so you have to wade into the river to launch your boat, while little chunks of ice float ominously by. Tall rubber boots become a sought-after commodity, and the regatta in Victoria at the end of October is hotly anticipated.

Rowers can continue their involvement with the club after the on-water season closes, however. After practicing daily with their boat-mates in the fall, athletes can choose to train over the winter in preparation for the summer competitive season that begins in April.

"We've got a room up in the stands in the Butterdome, and we are practicing there for the winter program on rowing machines," explains Boisson. "It's a partnership with the Edmonton Rowing Club [ERC], and we are doing circuit training in the ERC facility; very efficient, but top secret."

Different sports require different levels of commitment from their participants as well. Sign up for a fitness class and you have a weekly or twice-weekly engagement for a semester. But some clubs require more of your time than others.

Capoeira's demands on your time are flexible, for example. The U of A Capoeira Club has a partnership with the Edmonton club, and athletes can train with both if they choose.

"For the U of A club we have classes every Wednesday, up to two hours," says Magis. "I started going to the city club, so I ended up taking classes every day."

"A lot of people come out and try it; about half will stick around," Magis explains. "There's a saying in capoeira: Capoeira is for everyone, but not everyone's for capoeira."

It would seem that it all comes down to having a passion for the sport. Enthusiasm is the only thing that's going to get you off the couch and get your mind off that mammoth research essay you've been avoiding.

"It makes you feel good about yourself to be out there and punching just as hard as the guys are," says Nicolai of her involvement with kickboxing. "Being at that level of activity, it's a lot more enjoyable than just going to the gym."